

Quick Facts on SCHIP

- In 1997, under a Republican-led Congress, both parties worked together to establish SCHIP to cover low-income children who were not poor enough to qualify for Medicaid yet could not afford their own insurance.
- SCHIP has a proven record of success in providing health coverage to lower-income children. Congressman Forbes wants to renew this critical program.
- More than 500,000 children under 200 percent of poverty are eligible for SCHIP right now, yet they are not covered.
- The current reauthorization proposal would expand income levels to cover families making \$62,000 a year in most states.
- The Congressional Budget Office estimates that some 2 million people are expected to shift from private insurance to Washington-controlled government-run care. Luring families away from private insurance into a government-run health-system is only going to serve to increase government-dependence and reduce the quality of health care children receive.
- This reauthorization bill also does not require states to review legitimate identity documents like drivers' licenses, passports, or birth certificates to ensure that the applicant is a U.S. citizen. In turn, the reauthorization bill could cover illegal immigrants.
- The 140 percent cost expansion in the reauthorization legislation relies heavily on deficit spending to cover the inflated price tag.
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